

# Woodington

PAPUA  
NEW  
GUINEA

AUGUST  
2013



Paul at a bush strip in the Telefomin area of the Highlands in PNG - the plane arriving is a big event - taking time with the people is a great part of our ministry

**Now Flying...** - *but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength ...*

## Twin Otter - New Aircraft

It has been a big shift for Paul from flying a single piston engine mission plane to the twin Gas Turbine MAF Twin Otter bush aircraft.

There is no doubt that the aircraft works well in the bush and with two pilots there is an element of safer flying.

Since starting on the Otter, Paul has been into many highland strips carrying not only local passengers, but much needed building materials, fuel, food and several medical evacuations.

The aircraft is just short of 5.7 tones, landing at 100 MPH on wet grass strips as short as 400 meters in length.

## Melbourne

Since our last update, Paul has been to MAF's flight training centre in Melbourne for one month whilst Clare and the family took a much needed break in Cairns - MAF's headquarters. Kiri lives and studies in Melbourne and it gave both of them a

chance to spend a lot of special catch-up time together.

## Catching Up

Melbourne was not easy and not without challenges. Pictured here is Paul in MAF's new Blackbird flight simulator. During the month, both the Chief Flying Officer, Marcus Grey, and Paul caught the flu and a subsequent ear infection which delayed actual flying. The weather was fine, turbulent, but cold. On one day it was minus five degrees Celsius meaning the plane had to be de-iced before departure.

## Exams and Tests

During this time, the Lord has been very gracious in helping Paul with many exams and tests. Firstly, Paul had to complete his



Twin Otter ground schooling, then a PNG Basic Gas Turbine exam. In Melbourne his Australian Multiengine Command Instrument Rating. Then back in PNG an IFR Air Law exam, and a Twin Otter flight endorsement.

Paul has one flight exam to go, his PNG Instrument Rating which will be completed in the next month or so.

## Christmas Travel Update

We will be in the UK for Christmas visiting Christ Church Baptist Church WGC - morning family service, and Christ Church Barnet - evening service, on Sunday 15th December.

See you there!



Woodington, August 2013

## Clare's Billums and Maternity Packs

In our last update we mentioned Clare has been making bags for sale, the profits of which fund maternity packs for local national hospitals.

To date, Clare has lost count the number of bags she has made. This week she hopes to complete part delivery of an order for 20 to the New Tribes Mission station where three volunteer ladies help in the local maternity ward and give these packs away.



Here, Clare meets with a new mother, just getting off a MAF MEDEVAC flight, who has a retained placenta. In the small billum (bag) she keeps her new born. Clare gives her a maternity pack for her and her new baby.



**Highlands Life...** - *They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*

## Mission Hospital

During Imogen's break from University where she is studying to be a nurse, she volunteered to help out in PNG at the New Tribes Mission clinic.

Here she got first hand experience administering inoculations for a national vaccination program.

Pictured here, she is taking her Dad's bloods as part of his six monthly Pilot medical.



## Violence

There always seems to be something which causes the nationals to get angry enough to start fighting. Recently, this has been local elections.

The national electoral commissioner deemed the local elections in Mount Hagen, where MAF's head office in PNG is based, to be void.

For reasons which are not immediately obvious, the airport was the target of national aggression last week. The airport was closed Monday afternoon, all day Tuesday and the rest of the week the tower staff chose not to come to work. For safety reasons, MAF stopped operations on Tuesday and most of Wednesday morning.

## Coffee Prices

The highland bush communities are dependent on selling their coffee to buy tools, medicine and basic needs above what their subsistence farming provide. MAF provides a subsidized transport cost for coffee, but even this has not been enough to offset the plunging coffee price over the past three years.

This has left the bush people desperate. The world bank is stepping in and is offering to cover MAF's shipping costs in some areas, but the administration is slow and has yet to filter down to us.

## Telefomin

The result of poor coffee prices meant we shifted some of our Goroka staff to work in the Telefomin area for three days a week.

Telefomin is a very remote place near the Indonesian border of West Papua. MAF has operated there for many years, but lack of pilots has meant we now service them from Hagen or Goroka.

Paul is spending three days of each week in Telefomin with another pilot from Goroka. Much work is transporting huge quantities of vegetables from the highlands to the lowlands where vegetables are not easily grown, then fly building materials backup to the highlands for mission schools and clinics.

## Support and Donations

Would you like to receive family updates? We send them out every two or three months. [support@woodington.com](mailto:support@woodington.com)

### Donations

If God has laid upon your heart a desire to support us and our Family in the work of our Lord in MAF, please contact

#### MAF UK

+44 (845) 8509505

[On Line UK Donations](http://www.woodington.com)

#### MAF Australia

+61 (7)40461300

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LOVE FROM  
PAUL, CLARE AND FAMILY  
AUGUST 2013  
[www.woodington.com](http://www.woodington.com)



Woodington, August 2013

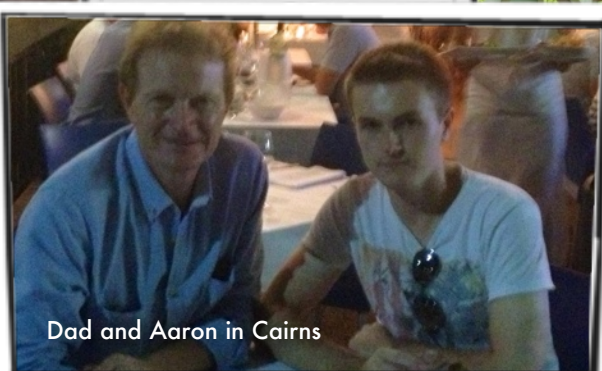
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Immi and Tris in their medical 'scrubs'



Clare's first pumpkin



Dad and Aaron in Cairns

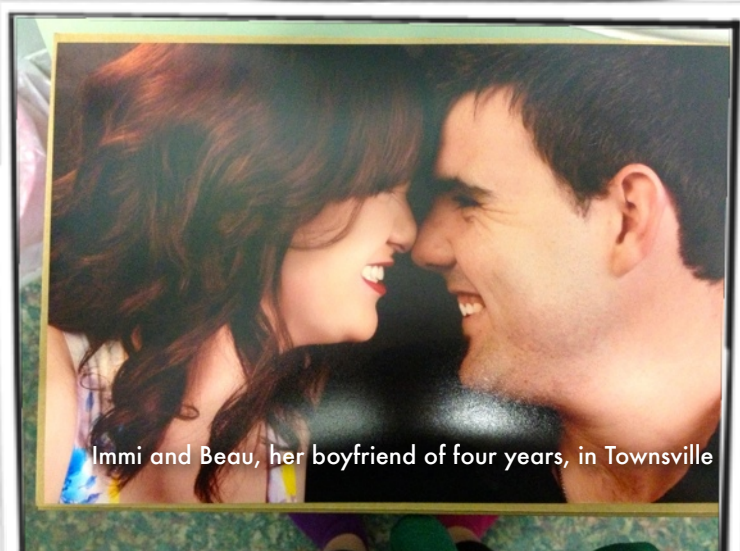
family



Kiri and Dad in Melbourne, spending a special night out together



God friends of ours, Trevor and Leanne Ingamels in their 'Faraway Cafe' in Melbourne



Immi and Beau, her boyfriend of four years, in Townsville